

ANNUAL

Report of Juvenile Officer

P. Purcell
To The Probate Court of Knox County

Showing The Number Of Cases Investigated

No One Committed To Industrial School

Although Many Offenders Brought Into Court

The following is the second annual report of Juvenile Probation Officer Patrick Purcell, for the year ending July 31st:

To the Hon. Patrick A. Berry, Probate Judge, and Judge of the Juvenile Court, and for Knox County, Ohio.

Herby beg to submit this, my sec-

ond annual report as Juvenile Probation Officer of said court for the year ending July 31st, 1910.

First I desire to state that during the year past I have frequently read the juvenile law and all its provisions, and also made every effort to secure information from other Juvenile Courts and persons interested in each work, that the intent and purpose of this most humane and much needed act of our legislature should be recognized and made use of to attain the purpose for which it was intended.

You will notice from this report that a large number of complaints were filed during the year, and you will also notice that no child was committed to an industrial school or other institution during the year. You will again notice that only a few hearings were had, and a small portion of such hearings is of public record. This was all done that the names of our boys and girls should not appear on the court records to remain as a stain on their names. The aim and intention during the past year was to settle all trouble outside of court, always looking to the future welfare of the boy or the girl, and in cases where the parents have co-operated and assisted we have met with success, and many a child's name has been kept from the juvenile court record. It is only too true, and I am sorry to say it, that in many instances parents have been neglectful and refused to aid in any manner in correcting their children, and in such cases it is only a matter of time when the children of such parents will be found in some industrial school. There is no power that can take the place of parents in correcting and restraining the bad acts of children.

During the past year many children were charged with offenses that would have placed them in some reform school, but instead of committing them to such institutions they were placed on probation, and everything done to encourage them to avoid places and associations that led them into trouble, and also to save themselves and their families humiliation and disgrace, and as I stated before, where parents have done their part much good has been accomplished, but where parents have neglected to do their duty such children have been frequently reported for committing some crime, and are traveling from bad to worse, and if, in the near future some children now on probation should be ordered committed to a reform school it will be after the juvenile court and its officers have exhausted all their power to save such children, and the blame will rest with the parents.

Number of calls answered and investigations made on complaints and applications for cases and offenses, as follows:

- 1. Stealing money and other articles, 10.
- 2. Stealing bicycle, 2.
- 3. Stealing children, 1.
- 4. Contributing to delinquency of minors, 1.
- 5. Violation of probation orders, 10.
- 6. Improper home surroundings, 4.
- 7. Smoking cigarettes, 5.
- 8. Living life of idleness and crime, 2.

Generally incorrigible, 4.
Playing ball on streets, 8.
Neglect of minor children, 16.
Congregating on street corner at night, 8.
Trespassing and destruction of property, 8.
Disorderly conduct, 10.
Stealing life in barn, 3.
Riding bicycle on sidewalk, 7.
Snowballing prostitutes, 2.
Furnishing tobacco to minors, 2.
Family quarrels and miscellaneous complaints, 30.

Number of children brought before the court:

Boys, 36.

Number of adults cited to court, 6.

Total, 54.

Number of hearings:

Delinquency, 8.

Neglect or dependency, 5.

Contributing to delinquency, 2.

Total, 15.

Number of children committed to industrial schools, none.

Number of children on probation during year, 24.

Number discharged from probation during year, 6.

Number children now on probation residing Knox county, 18.

Number on probation removed from Knox county, 2.

Number paroled from industrial schools and returned to Knox county, 2.

Adults released from suspended sentence, 1.

Number miles traveled on foot answering calls, and making investigations, 385.

Miles traveled on railroad, 350.

Miles traveled by vehicle, 70.

Amount of incidental expenses, laundry, fire, railroad fare, meals, etc. \$240.00.

And in conclusion I desire to thank your honor for the interest manifested and for valuable time and attention given to all matters of the juvenile court and the children brought before you.

And now a closing word: There are many things I could say that would be for the betterment of our youth, but I feel it would only be a waste of words for any warning or suggestion would not be heeded for my experience has revealed the fact that in this community there are parents who advocate the idea, that children must be children, and in order to have a good time as children they should not be restrained or required to obey the civil law. This is a false doctrine and is the foundation of much of our social troubles of today. Teach the child love and respect for God's law first, and then command that it obey all civil law. If parents will do this their child will grow up to be good Christians and law abiding citizens.

In this community we have laws and ordinances that are for the protection of our boys and girls, but they are dead letters. Public sentiment is lacking, consequently children are going to ruin and destruction, and many of our good people look on and wonder why one man can't stop it all. We must have public sentiment, and the people back of law enforcement. Children are on the streets at night, children frequent places of amusement they should not. Why is it? First, because parents permit it, and secondly, because public sentiment is not back of law enforcement intended to protect our children.

Let me give a little example. A few days ago complaint was filed against a boy about eleven years of age for holding up a smaller boy and taking from him some articles of value. The boy was brought in and when questioned as to what prompted him to do such a thing he answered that "I was playing train robber and I got the idea how to do it at a moving picture show." Again a few weeks ago a mother filed a complaint that her daughter, fifteen years of age, was associating with persons of immoral character, and in the interview with the girl she was asked as to how she became acquainted with the persons mentioned, and she answered that she met them at a public dance given outside of the city limits. My advice to those parents was "Keep your children home at night and acquaint yourself with the place of amusement they frequent among a poor crowd."

Carl Bartlett, arrested Tuesday morning by Chief of Police Dermody on a warrant sworn out in the court of Mayor Mitchell, charging him with bootlegging. The evidence against Bartlett was secured from a man to whom he sold whisky, so it is alleged. Bartlett was locked up in the county jail to await a hearing before Mayor Mitchell next Monday morning.

to church." Again there are children growing up in our community where the home surroundings and influences are so bad that they are unfit for children to reside in, and the law provides that such children, for their protection and future welfare should be taken from such homes and placed in a county of children's home. But we of Knox county have no children's home of any kind or description. What is the result? Such children must remain in such homes and grow up in idleness and crime and become as burden to society. One of Knox county seems to be a little distant and selfish, very slow, to become united and work together for the common good, but once we set our duty we are strong and powerful in action. If the people of Knox county would say to our county commissioners "We want a children's home" we would have one very soon. We have no such home because of the lack of public interest in such matters.

Let us hope that our good people will take an interest in such matters and place Knox county in the front rank of counties in our state that are interested in making true Christians and good citizens of all our boys and girls.

Respectfully submitted this 8th day of August, 1910.

PATRICK PURCELL,
Juvenile Probation Officer,
Knox County, Ohio.

ARREST

Of Collin Hogle On Tuesday Morning

Collin Hogle was arrested on Monday afternoon for obtaining money under false pretenses, on a warrant sworn out before Squire Harter by Mrs. Juliette Durieux of South Vernon, Mrs. Durieux (alleged) that several weeks ago, Hogle was informed of the fact that he was indebted to her something over \$5 for a milk bill. He told her that if she prepared a receipt she could have the money in a very short time. Acting in good faith, Mrs. Durieux sent her small son to the Hogle home with the receipt and the boy gave him the slip of paper before he secured the money. Hogle offered him \$3, but the boy refused to take it, stating that he wanted \$5. At this, Hogle pretended to get angry and said that if he would not take the \$3, he could go without any at all. The man is alleged to have kept the receipt, money and all. As a result, the warrant was issued and Hogle was arrested. He was taken before Squire George S. Harter and gave bond to the amount of \$100 for his appearance for hearing nine o'clock Thursday morning.

BARTLETT

Arrested Tuesday On Charge Of Bootlegging

Carl Bartlett, arrested Tuesday

morning by Chief of Police

on a warrant sworn out in the court of Mayor Mitchell, charging him with bootlegging. The evidence against

Bartlett was secured from a man to

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MORTGAGES

On Monday the officers of the asso-

ciation were pleased to announce that

the Rev. Joseph Smith of Redlands,

Cal., the old-time Sychar preacher,

would be here for his thirteenth visit

to Sychar, and he was assigned to

preach tonight. However, a short while

after the program had been agreed

and printed a message was received

from Sebring, O. where he has been

engaged in camp meeting work stat-

ing that he had been summoned to the

East by the death of a brother. This

caused genuine disappointment, but

when it was announced that Mrs.

Thomas Vennard, formerly Miss Iva

Wentworth, would be here and she

had been assigned to preach tonight

at 10:30 a.m. residence and hys-

ery barn to be sold at 11:30 a.m.

He had a saw and hammer and

anyone wishing to engage in this line

should not overlook this opportunity.

Arrangements have been made to

have a general sale of goods

on the day of the auction.

W. O. KORN, Gambier, Ohio.

Christopher Shuler was arrested by

Officer Lurz on the charge of being

drunk. He was born in Germany, is

a German occupation single and 16

years of age. Sychar News Notes

A good man would be most welcome.

The health of the camp is good,

nor a single case of sickness having

been reported.

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